REMARKS

Claims 1-53 are pending. Claims 1-53 were rejected based on the office action summary page. Based on the text of the office action itself, no 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 rejections were provided for claims 5-7, 11, 16-18, 22-31, 35-38, 42, and 46-53 including independent claims 23 and 48. The Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of these claims.

Claims 43-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because they are directed to a computer program product. Claims 43-47 are being amended to replace the phrase "computer program product" with "computer readable medium." The amendment is believed to overcome the subject matter rejection.

Claims 1-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because the Examiner argued that the phrase the "first and second transactions" is unclear. Claims 1, 2, 8, 3, 19, 26, 33, 39, 43, and 50 have been amended to use the phrase "first transaction and the second transaction" instead of "first and second transactions." The claims are believed clarified and the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection for this item is believed overcome. It should be noted that the phrase "first transaction and the second transaction" should not be construed to mean "only the first transaction and the second transaction." According to various embodiments, other transactions or other elements may also be identified and characterized as noted in the independent claims.

Claims 1, 12, 23, 32, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because the Examiner argued that it can not be ascertain whether "relationship information" relates one transaction with another or with just a transaction. "Relationship information" is believed to be described clearly throughout the specification, including on page 13-14 and in description associated with Figures 4-6. In one example, "using relationship information can include analyzing the characteristics to various transactions. Characteristics associated with various transactions, for example identifiers, data types, time, addresses, etc. are referred to herein as relationship information." (page 13, lines 26-29) "In one embodiment, a system administrator can use a command line interface and/or a configuration file to specify that relationship information includes accounting information, session information, and client information. Two transactions with common characteristics associated with three types of relationship information can be compacted into a single transaction entry." (page 14, lines 22-26)

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Independent claims 1, 12, 32, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mosher (USP 6,785,696 B2). Mosher describes a method "of backing up a distributed database system that has a plurality of primary nodes, each with a database and transaction monitor." (column 2, lines 31-37) "The method includes the steps of performing a local backup operation on the database of each backup node to leave on the backup node's database only those transactions received as committed or aborted from the backup node's primary node and then performing a global backup operation to undo any committed transaction whose presence causes the backup nodes to primary nodes that participated in the distributed transaction to be inconsistent. The step of performing a global backup operation includes finding a common synchronization point among the backup nodes, then producing for each backup node a local commit list that contains all transactions received as committed on each backup node from the common synchronization point through the last committed transaction received on the backup node." (column 2, lines 37-52).

However, Mosher only describes compressing data. "The TST (Transaction Status Table) is now compressed, in step 533, so that it contains all transactions whose outcome is unknown. Preferably the compression occurs by forcing entries with an unknown status towards the top of the TST table." (column 10, lines 35-40) The TST is compressed during creation of a "local undo list." (column 10, lines 30-35).
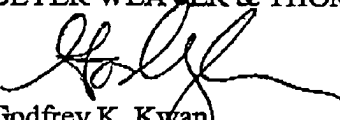
By contrast, the independent claims 1, 12, 32, and 43 variably recite "using relationship information to generate condensed transaction information." Mosher does not teach of suggest using relationship information to generate condensed transaction information. According to various embodiments of the present invention noted above, "relationship information includes accounting information, session information, and client information. Two transactions with common characteristics associated with three types of relationship information can be compacted into a single transaction entry." (page 14, lines 23-26) It should be noted that examples here are being used for illustrative and clarification purposes only and are not being used to narrow the scope of the claims.

Furthermore, Mosher does not teach or suggest characterizing one or more transactions using relationship information. Mosher only describes compressing a TST (Transaction Status Table). Mosher does not "characterize the first transaction and the second transaction using relationship information."

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In light of the above remarks relating to independent claims 1, 12, 32, and 43, the remaining independent claims and the dependent claims are believed allowable for at least the reasons noted above.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

Godfrey K. Kwan
Reg. No. 46,850

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778
(510) 843-6200

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